

unnecessary because the priority application was already properly referenced on page 1 of the application.

**CONCLUSION**

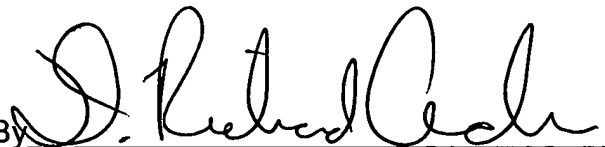
Entry of the above amendment and an early and favorable first action on the merits are respectfully requested.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

BY 

D. Richard Anderson, #40,439

DRA/jdm  
1163-0342P

P.O. Box 747  
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747  
(703) 205-8000

Attachment: VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The paragraph previously inserted before the first line of the specification (see page 2 of the Application Transmittal) has been deleted.